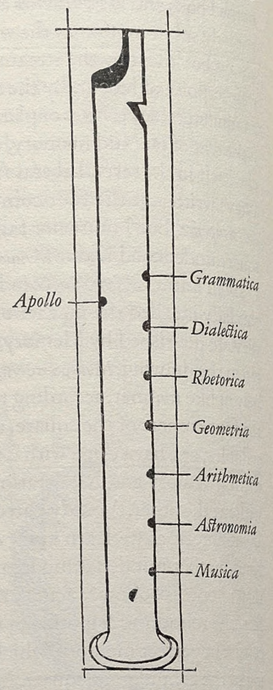
& sciences, which is signified in the seven Liberal Arts; for they blend in perfect accord, as do accordant notes in music. Virgil says, in the person of the Shepherd Corydon:—

Est mihi disparibus septem compacta cicutis
Fistula, Damœtas dono mihi quam dedit olim.*

* *Eclogues*, II, 36.

'I have,' he says, 'a flageolet with seven holes, an odd number, which Damœtas lately gave me.' By the flageolet, which is long and round and well proportioned, may be meant our two letters, I and O, and by the seven holes, the seven Liberal Arts, which I have written and arranged above. We see commonly that on the upper side of a flageolet there are seven holes arranged side by side; but underneath these is one, for the thumb, which, with the seven Liberal Arts, represents Apollo. And furthermore, for still greater harmony, we see also in the flageolet another hole, hard by the farther end, which makes the ninth, and represents the perfect accomplishment of the union between the nine Muses and the seven Liberal Arts. And if you would again find Apollo with the nine Muses, the hole near the mouth piece, where the notes of all the other holes unite to make a single note, will signify the said Apollo. See, therefore, how in shapely letters the worthy Ancients made use of even and odd numbers, as Virgil did in the first book of his Æneid, when he said:

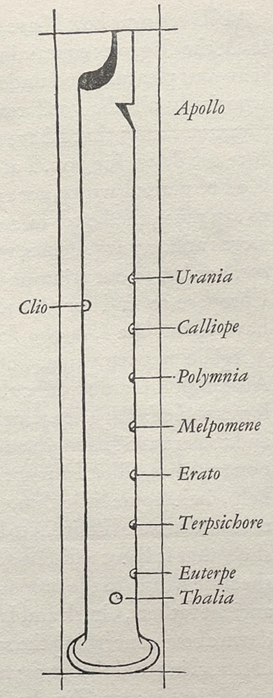


† *Æneid*, I, 94.

O terque quaterque beati! †

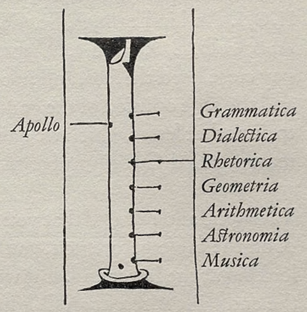
THEY made use of them, I say, did the worthy Ancients, understanding thereby, secretly, the seven Liberal Arts & the nine Muses, with their Apollo. I have drawn here the flageolet of Virgil, the better to put before your eyes the truth of what I say and of my arguments.

HEre follows the said flageolet as Virgil understood it, and as his commentators have not understood it; or, at least, if they have, they have made no mention of it, as any one can see [from what they say] as to the verses quoted, I do not say it to boast, but I have excogitated it in this wise, & studiously worked it out, for I find no man who can tell me this that I have conceived about it. Here, again, it is applied to the nine Muses, to the end that I may, if I can, satisfy both; and the figure will be like this that follows.



I Would even go further and make of the divine flageolet of Virgil an allegorical representation of our said letter I, upon which all others are based, and likewise of the O; and I will show that our triumphal words, IO, IO, are found therein, in all symmetry and harmony.

THE figure of the I, and the flageolet, comprising the seven Liberal Arts, is as follows. Observe in this figure, O ye noble and devoted lovers of well-formed letters, the truth of my words, and the divine intelligence of Virgil, king of all good Latin poets & philosophers, & that what I have heretofore quoted from the said Virgil is meant to refer covertly to the science and knowledge of letters, all of which take their proportion and form from the I, in which I have drawn for you the said flageolet with seven holes, that is to say, containing in harmonious accord the seven Liberal Arts.



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